## NEWS from

## The Savannah River Site



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For Immediate Release

## SRS ENGINEERS TAKE TOP HONORS AT ASEM CONFERENCE IN TAMPA

Aiken, S.C. (Oct. 15)—The Savannah River Site (SRS) has always been known for its bevy of brilliant engineering and scientific professionals. Engineers Ken Blankenship and Eugene Dixon recently were honored for their award-winning papers presented at the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference of the American Society for Engineering Management (ASEM).

"I have always known the group of engineers here at SRS are top notch," says SRS Chief Engineer George Clare. "Imagine, two SRS engineers taking top honors at the same conference. We are extremely proud of their accomplishment."

Blankenship, a Bechtel industrial engineer, won the Merl Baker Student Award for his paper, "An Exploration of Employee Trust in Management (Organizational Trust) as a Predictor of Company Performance in Engineering and Technology Based Companies."

Dixon, a Westinghouse principal engineer, won the Merrill Williamson Conference Award for his abstract submittal, "Followers Revealed."

The University of South Florida, located in Tampa, hosted the three-day conference. Over 100 abstracts were submitted to conference officials from engineering experts throughout the world.

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"Both of these awards are named after the founders of ASEM, so they are indeed very prestigious," says Dr. Anita Callahan, the conference's technical program chair and director of the University of South Florida's Department of Industrial and Management Systems. "The award recipients should be very proud because it is extremely rare for the two winners to work at the same job site."

The two award-winning engineers co-founded the CSRA chapter of the ASEM in 2000, and both currently are pursuing doctoral degrees in engineering management via a distance learning program offered by the University of Alabama-Huntsville.

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